

Call for Applications:

Dutch language-course in May-June 2019 at Columbia University for Graduate Students (tuition-free)

Applications are invited for a month-long course in modern Dutch, early modern Dutch/paleography, and archival research in Amsterdam/The Hague*, each section of which can be taken separately. The course is free-of-charge. Funding has been provided through the Nederlandse Taalunie and the University of Amsterdam.

The course has three distinct sections, and students may apply to any or all three (with the exception that students cannot apply to only the third section in the Netherlands). A single letter of application will suffice for any section(s) of the course, but applicants should be sure to include the appropriate supporting materials for the particular section(s) of the course to which application is being made. Applicants are requested to clearly state which sections they are applying to, by stating it in **boldface** on the letter of purpose.

**Participants in the Archival Week must make arrangements for their own accommodations and flight. Travel expenses within the country may be covered depending on funding.*

APPLICATIONS FOR ALL SESSIONS ARE **DUE FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2019**

- two weeks of Modern Dutch for Reading Knowledge [Week I & II (5/28 - 5/31 & 6/3 - 6/6)]

Each week runs Monday through Thursday, except Week I which is Tuesday through Friday

- one week of 17th-century Dutch/paleography [Week III (6/10 - 6/13)]

- one week archival workshop in the Netherlands [Week IV (6/17 - 6/20)]

Description of the courses and requirements for admission to each section

Week I & II: Modern Dutch for Reading Knowledge

This section will cover reading skills, grammar and vocabulary of modern Dutch.

*Open to all students with the equivalent of 2 semesters or more of Dutch (or 4 semesters of German or equivalent) at the college level. Students must submit evidence of competence in the language. **Preference will be given to students enrolled in a PhD program, although M.A students may apply.** Students who are unsure if their level of Dutch is satisfactory should contact Wijnie de Groot (wed23@columbia.edu).*

Week III: 17th-century Dutch texts/paleography workshop

The workshop will cover reading strategies of 17th-century printed and handwritten texts.

Open to all students with the equivalent of 2 semesters or more of Dutch or 2 full years of German at the college level. Students must submit evidence of competence in the language. In addition, students should submit a letter

of application explaining their reason for application. **Preference will be given to students enrolled in a PhD program, although M.A students may apply.**

Week IV: Archival workshop in the Netherlands

This workshop (in collaboration with the University of Amsterdam) will take place in the Netherlands (including visits to the Royal Library, National Archive and RKD (Netherlands Institute for Art History) in the Hague, and the Amsterdam City Archive and University of Amsterdam Special Collections) and will introduce students to 16th and 17th century archives in Amsterdam and the Hague and other resources (such as the Maritime Museum and the Print Room at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.)

Space for this week will be limited and highly competitive. The workshop will take place from June 17 to 20, and students will be able to conduct individual research on June 21.

Preference will be given to PhD candidates who are ready to start dissertation research. This week is not open to M.A. students..

Email Wijnie de Groot at wed23@columbia.edu for additional information.

PREREQUISITES

Applicants for the Netherlands portion of the course must

- have completed MA thesis and first-year of graduate work at the Phd level
- be enrolled in a PhD program
- must be at or close to the stage of planning the dissertation research and have a good idea of the kinds of sources that will be needed to conduct research
- submit a letter of support from advisor or principal faculty member: the letter should endorse the usefulness of the trip and the archival experience, in the expectation that it will lead to archival work for the thesis.
- submit a letter of purpose: it should explain how the training will advance their ongoing or planned research for a doctoral thesis (including an indication of what stage the applicant is in their program: first-year, second-year, etc.)
- show evidence of Dutch language skills (the equivalent of 3 semesters of Dutch). To do so, applicants must provide a letter from an instructor of Dutch at the college level attesting to adequate language skills, or, in the case of selfstudy, pass a language test.

All applications, along with supporting documents, should be emailed to Wijnie de Groot at wed23@columbia.edu. They are due March 1, 2019

Inquiries should also be directed to Wijnie de Groot at that email address.